



Collaborative Working Project executive summary

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| Project title | A Collaborative Working Agreement between Sanofi and Belfast Health & Social Care Trust to review and improve the patient journey and experience for severe asthma patients requiring biologic therapy. |
| Partner organisation/s | Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (HSCT) Sanofi |
| Project rationale | The Belfast HSCT Asthma Service delivers the specialist severe asthma service within Northern Ireland. This collaborative working project will map and review the severe asthma pathway and will aim to provide a list of options for potential service redesign. The ambition is to improve the patient journey and experience for those patients requiring biologic treatment for severe asthma. |
| Project period | Q4 2024 – Q1 2026 |
| Project objectives | <p>The project objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To undertake a review of the current severe asthma patient pathway identifying 'gaps and issues' which if modified would improve patient flow through the system and overall patient experience.• To map and review biologic homecare services to identify potential areas for improvement which if implemented could deliver overall service improvement• To reduce the administrative burden on clinical staff and free up clinical capacity which could be utilised to reduce waiting times.• To support the maintenance of the severe asthma biologic database related to the prescribing and monitoring of patients on biologics and transition to homecare.• To provide a central point of contact for patient queries with the aim of improving patient wait times and experience.• To add ENT and Speech and Language Therapy support to the multi-disciplinary service utilising direct video laryngoscopy to improve the difficult asthma diagnostic process and improve patient access to the most appropriate treatment pathway.• To utilise the findings and outcomes from the project to build a business case for the continuation of the Biologics Administrator and Speech & Language Therapy roles via HSC funding. |

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| | <p>Expected benefits for patients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve patient experience of the service via a reduction in patient wait times and improved service co-ordination. • Reduction in time taken for patients to gain access to the most appropriate treatment where required. • Reduction in time taken for patients to access biologics where this treatment is recommended. <p>Expected benefits for the NHS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of potential service gaps within the current biologics service and identification of potential changes which could improve the service. • Improvement in the difficult asthma patient diagnostic process. • Review of capacity and demand for the biologics service informing future service development. • Review and improvement of the management processes around homecare for patients on biologics. <p>Expected benefits for Sanofi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater clarity of the pressure points and priorities around severe asthma service delivery enabling us to tailor our offerings in the future. • Greater clarity of any issues around company funded homecare organisation and co-ordination. • Improved corporate reputation within Belfast HSC Trust by supporting them to improve the quality of care for patients. • As Sanofi produce medicines within the severe space should overall patient care be optimised there may be an increase in the usage of these medicines in line with national and local guidelines. <p>Resources required to deliver this project are approximately £74,000 (Sanofi 50%, NHS 50%)</p> |
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